



**U.S. Department of Justice**

*United States Attorney  
District of New Hampshire*

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**MEDIA RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**

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**FREEMONT MAN GUILTY IN BEDFORD BURGLARIES  
AND SALE OF STOLEN COMPUTERS VIA INTERNET**

**CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE:** United States Attorney Tom Colantuono announced today that Robert Marsella, age 20 of Freemont, NH, pleaded guilty in Federal Court to mail fraud charges. Marsella admitted that he and an associate, Brian Samson, who pleaded guilty last Friday, burglarized Samson's former employer, Lightship Telecom of Bedford, NH, on October 3, 2001, and then again on August 15, 2002. During the two burglaries Marsella and Samson stole more than \$50,000 worth of computer equipment. Marsella also admitted that he and Samson sold most of the stolen computer equipment on the E-Bay Internet auction site to unsuspecting purchasers after falsely representing to E-Bay that the items for sale were not stolen. After making the fraudulent sales through the E-Bay auction site and taking payment through Internet banks Marsella and Samson mailed and shipped the stolen equipment to purchasers across the country.

Marsella is scheduled to be sentenced on April 28, 2003 by Judge Steven J. McAuliffe. He faces a maximum prison sentence of five years and a fine of up to \$250,000. He will also be ordered to make full restitution to the victims of this crime.

After the plea of guilty was entered U.S. Attorney Tom Colantuono stated: "This conviction is the second in this Internet fraud scheme. This office will continue to work closely with federal and local law enforcement agencies to track down and vigorously prosecute criminals such as Mr. Marsella who abuse the Internet for criminal purposes."

The case was investigated by the United States Postal Inspection Service, the FBI and the Bedford, NH Police Department. It was prosecuted by Assistant U. S. Attorney Arnold Huftalen.